

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: Raymond G. Goodwin and Wanwan S. Din
 Serial No.: --to be assigned--
 Filing Date: May 14, 2001
 For: METHODS OF USE OF THE TACI/TACI-L INTERACTION

Docket No. 2519-A
 Art Unit: Unknown
 Examiner: Unknown

*Re Amended
9/1A*

BOX PATENT APPLICATION
 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining this continuation application, please enter the following amendment.

In the Specification:

Before page 1, line 7, please add:

This application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/302,863, filed April 30, 1999, pending.

In the Claims:

Please delete claims 1-14 and add new claims 15-18.

15. (new) A purified nucleic acid comprising extracellular TACI and a Fc fragment.

16. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the Fc fragment is human IgG1.

17. (new) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the extracellular TACI is the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2.

18. (new) A TACI:Fc protein comprising amino acids selected from the group consisting of (a) amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2; (b) amino acids at least 75% identical to amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2 and (c) fragments of amino acids 2-166; wherein (a), (b) and (c) retain the biological ability to bind to TACI-L.

Respectfully submitted,

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